

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10
ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NASA-01 NSC-05 ERDA-05 OES-06 /095 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2430

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, UN

SUBJECT: OUTER SPACE STSC: FRENCH WORKING PAPER ON DEFINITION OF DATA.

1. SECRETARIAT HAS DISTRIBUTED TO DELEGATIONS ON FEB. 15 A FRENCH WORKING PAPER (A/AC.105/C.1/L.93) ENTITLED "QUESTIONS RELATING TO REMOTE SENSING OF THE EARTH BY SATELLITES -- IDEAS CONCERNING THE DEFINITION OF DATA."

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF PARAGRAPHS 2-5 OF THE FRENCH WORKING PAPER;

2. QUOTE: THERE ARE IN FACT TWO BASIC CRITERIA WHICH DETERMINE THE VALUE OF "DATA":

-THE STAGE OF PROCESSING,

- THE SPATIAL RESOLUTION.

3. THE SPATIAL RESOLUTION MUST, HOWEVER, BE SUPPLEMENTED BY OTHER TECHNICAL PARAMETERS WHICH AFFECT THE SENSITIVITY OR THE VALUE OF DATA OBTAINED BY REMOTE SENSING (SPECTRAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DATA, PERIODICITY OF THE MEASUREMENTS, COM-

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BINATION OF DATA OBTAINED BY DIFFERENT OBSERVATION SYSTEMS). IN FACT, THESE VARIOUS TECHNIQUES MAY MEAN THAT THE RESOLVING POWERS ARE VERY DIFFERENT FROM THE INITIAL RESOLVING POWER.

4. THE STAGE OF PROCESSING OF DATA TO BE USED FOR "INFORMATION" IS LESS SUBJECT TO INTERPRETATION.

5. THE FRENCH DELEGATION THEREFORE PROPOSES THAT, BEARING IN MIND THE NEED TO MAINTAIN CO-ORDINATION WITH THE LEGAL SUB-COMMITTEE, THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE SHOULD IN THE COURSE OF ITS WORK CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF RECOMMENDING TO THE LEGAL SUB-COMMITTEE THE FOLLOWING FORMULATION CONCERNING THE DISSEMINATION OF DATA:

"THE DISSEMINATION OF ANY 'INFORMATION' PREPARED BY MEANS OF A SEPARATING POWER OF ONE DECAMETER OR LESS AND OBTAINED AFTER PROCESSING OF RAW DATA COLLECTED BY ANY TYPE OF SATELLITE-BORNE CAPTOR SHALL REQUIRE THE PRIOR CONSENT OF THE STATE CONCERNED OR SENSED." UNQUOTE.

6. OUR INITIAL VIEWS ON THE POINTS RAISED IN THE FRENCH PAPER ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. RE PARA 2, THE VALUE OF DATA IS A SUBJECTIVE DETERMINATION MADE BY THOSE WHO APPLY DATA AS A RESULT OF THE APPLICATIONS OF THIS TECHNOLOGY. THE SAME DATA COULD HAVE WIDELY VARYING VALUE TO DIFFERENT USERS IN DIFFERENT CONTEXTS.

B. RE PARA 3 ON SPATIAL RESOLUTION, WE RECOGNIZE THAT THERE ARE A NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL PARAMETERS THAT CAN BE EMPLOYED WITH REMOTELY SENSED DATA. CERTAIN TECHNICAL FACTORS CAN AFFECT ITS UTILITY INCLUDING SPECTRAL RESOLUTION, SPATIAL RESOLUTION, SPECTRAL RANGE, AREA COVERAGE, SYNOPTIC PROPERTIES AND DATA FROM SUPPLEMENTAL SOURCES. HOWEVER, THESE FACTORS DO NOT HELP US IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEFINING THE TERM DATA.

C. PARA 4, SEEMS INCOMPREHENSIBLE.

D. PARA 5 DEALS WITH A TOTALLY DIFFERENT ASPECT, I.E., DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION -- AND ESSENTIALLY PROPOSES PRIOR CONSENT FOR DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION WITH A "SEPARATING POWER," WHICH WE TAKE TO MEAN "RESOLUTION," OF ONE DECAMETER OR LESS. WE WOULD PROPOSE COMMENTING AS WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY ON THE PROPRIETARY NATURE OF "INFORMATION," NAMELY THAT ITS USE AND DISSEMINATION ARE NOT APPROPRIATE SUBJECTS FOR INCLUSION IN A SET OF PRINCIPLES RELATING TO SPACE ACTIVITIES IN THIS FIELD. FOR OUR PART, THE US CAN NOT GUARANTEE CONTROL OVER THE WORK PRODUCT OF INDIVIDUAL CITIZENS, EDUCATIONAL OR BUSINESS ENTITIES OR OTHER USERS OF REMOTE SENSING DATA.

3. ADDITIONAL POINTS OR COMMENTS OF AGENCIES ON THE

FRENCH PROPOSAL WOULD BE APPRECIATED.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DATA, SPACE PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation History:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: OUTER SPACE STSC: FRENCH WORKING PAPER ON DEFINI- TION OF DATA.
TAGS: TSPA, FR, UN
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Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a3daa1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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